GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:673
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2003
RECORDS OF OLD RAILWAY BRIDGES
JAYABEN B. THAKKAR;PADAMSEN CHAUDHARY

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of rail bridges in the country which are more than 80 years old;

(b) whether Railways do not have appropriate and adequate data base about railway bridges due to which their proper monitoring is very difficult;

(c) if so, the reasons for not maintaining appropriate and adequate data base about railway bridges; and

(d) the manner in which the Government are monitoring and maintaining such old bridges?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

(a): There are about 75600 Rail Bridges on Indian Railway which are more than 80 years old.

(b): Adequate and appropriate information about Railway bridges is available for proper monitoring. However, Railway has further decided to modernize inspection and management systems.

(c): Does not arise.

(d): Railways have well laid down multi-tier schedule of annual inspection of bridges and each bridge is inspected atleast once in a year. The defects noticed during such inspections are attended to promptly or suitable speed restrictions are imposed, if required, till such time repairs are carried out.